

" A CHALLENGE TO SCIENCE "

A PRELIMINARY REPORT
RELATING TO A UFO EVENT
RECORDED ON 16mm CINE
FILM ON 26th OCTOBER
1971 near BANBURY
OXFORDSHIRE, ENGLAND.

INTRODUCTION

This Preliminary Report sets out all the existing known facts relating to the extraordinary event which was recorded on 16mm colour film by a professional cameraman with Associated Television (ATV) in Birmingham and who is, significantly, an extremely experienced photographer of high speed jet aircraft, having filmed with the "Red Arrows" aerobatic team on a number of occasions.

The film is of good quality and there is no doubt whatsoever that a real "object" was photographed and that the cameraman and other witnesses did not perpetrate a hoax. However, the reader of this Report must judge the facts for himself.

It has been decided to publish the facts of this case now for the following reasons:-

- 1) BUFORA believes that publication of the remarkable facts surrounding this unique case is long overdue and that this particular case is of such potential interest that publication should not be delayed until it is possible to write a 'Final Report';
- 2) publication at this time will hopefully attract the interest and assistance of readers who would not otherwise come forward with offers of help whether concerning this case specifically or UFO cases in general; and
- 3) although it is proposed to distribute complimentary copies of this Report to various interested parties (and others who are not yet so interested) it is nevertheless hoped that the proceeds of sale of other copies will contribute towards the costs of both past and future research into this intriguing case.

Readers of this Report should bear in mind that the event described was one of scores of similar reports which emanated from the residents of Oxfordshire and neighbouring counties during the Autumn of 1971 and the Spring of 1972 and which were energetically investigated by a number of people; in particular, Mr. Richard Colbourne devoted a considerable amount of his spare time and energy in an attempt to record all the relevant information especially with a view to obtaining corroborative evidence from reliable independent witnesses. Acknowledgment must also be made of the encouragement and valuable assistance provided to the writer by Mr. Julian Hennessey during the course of the investigations.

Roger H Starway
1st May 1975

1. INTRODUCTION

2. CASE - ATV UFO FILM (26.10.1971)

1. Case Summary as at December 1971 and map indicating possible trajectory of object.
2. Tape transcript - interview with Mr. Lionel Hampden (ATV Film Crew commentator)
3. Tape transcript - interview with Mr. Charles Lynch (ATV Film Crew - Electrician)
4. Tape transcript - interview with Miss Christine Fowlass and Mr. Sidney Kilby (Production Assistant and Director respectively)
5. Tape transcript - interview with Mr. Noel Smart (ATV Cameraman)
6. Signed statement by Mr. Noel Smart giving technical data relating to the camera and film.
7. Signed account of observation from Mr. Hampden.
8. Signed Preliminary Sighting Report from Miss Fewlass.
9. Eye-witness descriptions from other independent witnesses to the same event, as follows:-

a) Mr. Kearsley	h) Mr. Chatt
b) Mr. Collison	i) Mrs. Blaise-Smith
c) Mr. Sparks	j) Mr. Blaise-Smith
d) Mr. Harvey	k) Mr. Twynham
e) Mr. Heritage	l) Mr. Pearce
f) Mr. Miles	m) Mrs. Peachey
g) Mrs. Saysell	
10. Note of a visit to Upper Heyford (USAF) in December 1971.
11. Copy letter from the Meteorological Office, London Road, Bracknell, to Mr. J. Hennessey and dated 21st December 1971.
12. Copy letter from Colonel Richard M. Baughn (USAF) to Mr. J. Hennessey concerning fuel-dumping.
13. Copy letter from Mr. J. Hennessey to Mr. Bob Gillman dated 29th October 1971 enclosing biographical details relating to Dr. Robert M.L. Baker Jr.
14. Copy letter from Mr. A.N. Davis, DSO, DFC, Ministry of Defence S4 (Air) to Mr. J. Hennessey dated 7th January 1972.
15. Copy letter from Antony Lambton (Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Defence for the Royal Air Force) to Mr. Julian Ridsdale, M.P. dated 7th February 1972).

(OMITTED)

16. Summary Report dated 11th February 1972 from Mr. C.A.E.O'Brien (then BUFORA's National Investigations Co-ordinator) concerning his visit to the KODAK MUSEUM to view the film in the presence of Mr. Coe, the Museum's curator and a panel of experts from Kodak.
17. 60 TIMES enlargement in black and white of a frame from the 16mm cine film showing the "vapour trail".
18. Copy newscutting from The Daily Telegraph several days after the film was taken referring to the ATV programme discussing the film and the eye-witness accounts.
19. Two photographs taken from the exact location of the camera crew at the time of the sighting; photograph 'A' is taken in the direction where the object was first sighted and 'B' looks towards the direction where the object very rapidly disappeared from view.
20. A photograph of a camouflaged F 111 in flight.
21. Brief descriptions from other independent witnesses.
22. Summary of Preliminary Analysis of the 16mm cine film.
23. CONCLUSION.
24. RECOMMENDATIONS.

A Preliminary Scientific Investigation and Analysis conducted jointly by:-

- (a) Roger H. Stanway, Richard Colbourne and Michael Prewett
on behalf of The British UFO Research Association (BUFORA)
- (b) Julian J.A. Hennessey on behalf of Dr. Allen J. Hynek,
Professor of Astronomy, Northwestern University, U.S.A.
- (c) Charles Bowen, Editor, Flying Saucer Review, London.

1. Terminology

The term UFO is used in this Summary to describe the as yet unidentified aerial phenomenon which stimulated a large number of reports from witnesses in the South Midlands and which was recorded on 16mm colour film.

2. Basic Reference Data

Date of the UFO event - Tuesday 26th October, 1971
Time " " " " - Between approx. 11.50 a.m. and 12.15 p.m.
LOCATION " " " - Oxfordshire, Northamptonshire and Bedfordshire.

Known witnesses to the UFO event - At least 7 independent groups of witnesses
consisting in total of about 25 persons.

3. Summary of the UFO event as described by each independent group of witnesses

The attached map should be viewed in conjunction with the following information:-

NB. Details as to eg. time, bearing, elevation etc. should not be treated
as being completely accurate as allowances should be made for small
degrees of error.

POSITION 1

Time: Between approx. 11.50 a.m. and noon.
Witnesses: 6 members of an ATV film unit.
Location: Ordnance Survey Sheet 145: Grid reference 398234 - Farmer Jordon's
field, Radford Bridge, Enstone, Oxfordshire.

UFO :

- (a) Bearings : (magnetic unless stated otherwise): 300° N
at first sighting and 30° N at last sighting. Filming
began at about 350° N and ended at about 20° N.
- (b) Elevation : About 15° or possibly more i.e. 25° from the
horizontal - remaining fairly constant throughout the
sighting although dropping towards the end.
- (c) Description : A small bright orange (fluorescent) ball of
light - emitting at times a thick dense trail of vapour or
smoke.
- (d) Motion : At apparent West to East direction of travel in the
clear blue sky which was marked by very rapid rates of
acceleration and deceleration on several occasions. On two
or three occasions the object remained apparently stationary
and "hung in the sky" for up to 30 seconds. Whilst stationary
the object gave the appearance of spinning about its axis owing
to a rapid regular change in the intensity of light and colour
i.e. orange and dark colour (possibly black or blue) and also
owing to a spiral effect in the vapour or smoke trail
observed by several witnesses.

Place: Farmer Jordon's field, Radford Bridge, Enstone, Oxfordshire.
Grid ref: 398234 O.S. Sheet 145.

Date: Tuesday, 26th October 1971 approx. 11.50 a.m.

Witnesses: ATV Film Unit

- | | | |
|----------------------|---|------------------------|
| 1. Lionel Hampden | - | Interviewer |
| 2. Sidney Kilby | - | Director |
| 3. Noel Smart | - | Cameraman |
| 4. Christine Fewlass | - | Production Assistant |
| 5. Charlie Lynch | - | Lighting - Electrician |
| 6. Alan ? | - | Sound |

UFO Event : (Description by Lionel Hampden made during a visit to the site)

UFO first seen in clear blue sky on a bearing of 300° N (magnetic north) at an elevation of approximately 15° or more to the horizontal. UFO moved apparently eastwards after seeming to have remained stationary for a short time. Filming began when the UFO was on a bearing of 350° N and ended at 20° N. The UFO then began to emit a "vapour trail" and eventually the UFO was lost to sight at a bearing of 30° N. The UFO did not appear to drop in elevation throughout the sighting which suggests it was climbing in altitude as it was travelling away from the observers.

Distances of Foreground features from Camera :

- | | | |
|--|---|-----------|
| 1. Tall tree on right of gate on a bearing of approx. 10° N | - | 90 paces |
| 2. 2 trees further to the right beyond hedgerow on a bearing of approx. 30° N | - | 240 paces |
| 3. Corner of wood on a bearing of approx. 60° N | - | 234 paces |

1 Pace = approximately 1 yard/metre

Description of Location of Witnesses :

The members of the film crew were standing on a northern facing slope of a field situated about $\frac{1}{4}$ mile North East of the A.34T road which links Stratford-upon-Avon and Oxford. The witnesses were standing about 50 ft. below the top of the hill at a height of approximately 400 ft. above sea-level.

The main runway of a disused airfield lies about $1\frac{3}{4}$ miles North of the location; a W.T. (Wireless Telegraphy) station lies 7 miles to North East just South of Bloxham.

The airfield at Upper Heyford lies 7 miles to the East of the location, and the town of Banbury 11 miles to the North North East.

- NB.
1. The tropopause was recorded at a pressure level of 235 mb at a height of 36,200 ft indicating that a vapour trail would be produced at this height or above by an aeroplane (jet).
 2. The attached plan is only tentative in respect of the path of the UFO.
 3. Other witnesses' accounts are omitted to avoid "leading" or biasing the photographic analysis as such accounts do not relate to the event recorded on the film owing to the different locations of these witnesses.
 4. The words "vapour trail" have been used frequently although this may not be a true description of what actually caused the phenomenon observed and described by witnesses as a vapour trail.

POSITION 2

Time : 12 noon
Location : Ruscote Estate, Banbury, Oxfordshire
Witnesses : David Chatt, aged 16.

UOF :

Bearings: First seen - West
Last seen - East

Elevation : The object passed over the head of the witness.
First seen - 30°
Last seen - 30°

Description : + Motion :

Orange sphere with a sharp outline leaving a thick white vapour trail about 3 or 4 times wider than an aircrafts' trail. The object was as wide as its trail. On looking back along the trail the witness could see a double bend in the trail where the object had evidently turned sharply to its right (South) travelled a short distance and then turned to its left, (East) taking up a course parallel with the original one. The sphere passed directly over the witness's head, at which point the trail ceased, a puff or blob was left at the termination but the sphere continued. The witness said that the object decelerated as it moved away from the end of its trail but he was not sure if it stopped completely. The vapour trail then resumed with another puff.

The above sequence was repeated again after the object had moved further toward the East and when the object accelerated away for the second time, the witness ran into his house which faces the shops, to get his binoculars, but when he re-emerged the object had disappeared. He noticed that the end of the trail did not terminate with a puff as before but tapered and faded out. The witness heard no sound from the object although other witnesses at the location reported hearing a roaring noise. The background noise at the location was low.

The witness is certain that he did not see the object emit any flames when the vapour stopped and he is also certain that the orange sphere was the object itself and not a large flame.

The witness considered that the vapour trail faded away much quicker than a normal aeroplane condensation trail.

POSITION 3

Time : 12 noon
Location : Cherwell Hights, Banbury, Oxfordshire.
Witness : Mrs. Blaise - Smith, housewife

UFO :

Bearing : First seen - Magnetic North
Last seen - East (100°)

Elevation : First seen - 10°
Last seen - 10°

Description : A sharply defined orange sphere leaving a trail of vapour behind it. A roaring/crackling noise outside her house caused the witness to go to the window where she first saw the orange object.

Motion : The witness saw the object stop twice during its trajectory and leave a puff of vapour when doing so. When the vapour stopped, the noise stopped, when the vapour restarted there was an audible explosion and a puff. She saw no flames when the trail stopped.

Time: 12 noon to 12.05 p.m.
Location : O/S Ref. sp 563337; Stonehill Quarries, Croughton, Oxfordshire.
Witnesses : Mr. Blaise - Smith and 3 others (not yet interviewed)

UFO :

Bearings: First seen - 330°
Last seen - 75°

Elevation : Not determined

Description : Whitish sharply defined object leaving a vapour trail.

Motion : From West to East. The trail stopped several times and when the trail stopped a very large flame come from the object.

POSITION 5

Time: About noon
Location : O/S Ref. SP. 584352, Evenley, Oxfordshire.
Witnesses: Mr. Trevor Twynham, 16, and 3 older men.

UFO :

Bearings: First seen - N.W.
Last seen - NE.

Elevation: First seen - 45°
Last seen - 45°

Description: A sharply defined aircraft of unconventional design leaving a trail of white vapour and on one occasion a flame.

Motion: It travelled East at 45° elevation leaving a white trail. When it was above Evenley Hall, 43° East of Magnetic North, but, beyond the Hall, the vapour stopped and the object continued a short distance then a flame came out of the rear of the object. The flame was twice the size of the object. Then the smoke started coming out again and "then it just vanished; you couldn't see anything else. It didn't look as if it had flowed out of sight as far as the eye could see, 'cos it hadn't; it just vanished". The witness could not see any wings or cockpit etc. No sound was heard.

POSITION 6

Time: 12.05 p.m.
Location : Hayes Lane, Deanshanger, Wolverton, Buckinghamshire.
Witnesses: Five schoolboys.

UOF :

Bearings: First seen - 320°
Last seen - 60°

Elevation: First seen - 45°
Last seen - 45°

Description: A glowing white well defined missile shape emitting an orange flame and a white smoke.

Motion : Travelling Eastwards very fast. When the vapour trail stopped it made an orange/red flame. The witness did not see the object stop although the trail stopped three times. There was no puffing or tapering each time the trail stopped. The flame remained visible each time the trail stopped until the trail restarted. It might have changed course slightly. One witness could hear

sound came from the object and not other planes which were low in the sky near to the time of the sighting.

POSITION 7

Time: 12.10 p.m.
Location: Jenkinson Road, Towcester, Northhamptonshire.
Witnesses: Mr. and Mrs. Peachey.

UFO:

Bearings: First seen - 310°
Last seen - 120°

Elevation: First seen - 30°
Last seen - ?

Description: Sharply defined white rocket shaped object with a pointed nose cone which was off set to one side and it had a blue diagonal stripe across it. It made a noise like distant thunder, a stange sound unlike anything the witnesses had heard before. There was a noticeable gap between the end of the missile and the start of the vapour trail.

Motion : It travelled Eastwards. It went over the head of the witnesses and during this time it stopped twice. "The object first came into sight leaving a trail behind it. The trail then stopped; there was a short burst of flame and the object then stopped dead". The witnesses are certain that the object stopped dead. Suddenly, it moved off again very fast (the witnesses said there appeared to be no period of acceleration) Shortly after moving again, the vapour recommenced. This cycle was then repeated. When the flame superseded the vapour, the level of the noise rose but then all was silent until the vapour recommenced. The object was visible for about $1\frac{1}{2}$ minutes and finally disappeared from sight upwards into the sky.

4. Ambient Conditions : -

It was an extremely fine clear sunny day with no clouds visible, except on the distant Eastern horizon. The sun was exactly in the South, being midday.

The weather centre had indicated to Air Traffic Control at Elmdon, Birmingham that the formation of condensation vapour trails would take place at or above 32,000 feet.

At the ATV film units' location; the background noise level was very low and not intruding sound was being detected on the sensitive rifle microphone which was being tested at the actual time of the sighting.

5. Trigonometrical Calculations

Path: A) The accompanying map and the reconstructed path of the UFO has been determined by reference to the bearings, elevations and descriptions of the independent witnesses. It is significant that witnesses in Banbury describe the object as passing overhead (unlikely to be directly overhead) although still looking to the North of the town whereas the witnesses at Towcester report the object as also passing overhead but disappearing into the South East. This suggests that the object passed directly over a point on a straight line linking Banbury and Towcester. There does not appear to be any evidence of a permanent change in the general West - East trajectory.

Height: B) Assuming the path of the object to be as indicated on the reconstruction, it can be determined that the distance along the ground from Position 1 to a point vertically beneath the object as it passes NNE of Banbury is in the region of 18 miles. Therefore, knowing the elevation of the object at Position 1 to be about 15° , it can be ascertained that the approximate height of the object may have been 15,000 feet.

However, the detailed description of the object by witnesses at Banbury and Towcester suggests that either the object must have been considerably bigger than a conventional aeroplane if it was at or above 15,000 feet or alternatively it was about the size of such a plane but was considerably lower than 15,000 feet.

In addition, at Position 6, Deanshanger, the reconstructed path passes within about 3 miles North of the witnesses who indicate an approximate elevation of 45° or more. Calculation reveals here again that the height of the object would be in the region of 15,000 feet.

The path and height of the object would seem to indicate that it was a potential hazard to the safety of civilian aircraft using the busy air-routes over the Midlands.

Conclusion

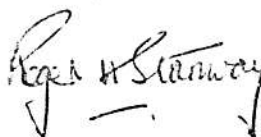
The investigations are not yet complete but the evidence so far collected suggests that there could be three possible explanations :-

1. An aircraft of extremely unconventional design, performance and manoeuvrability or,
2. A guided or non-guided missile or rocket
3. An unidentifiable object representing an unknown phenomenon.

If either the first two explanations is the correct one then it should be possible for the Ministry of Defence to quickly and positively identify the object.

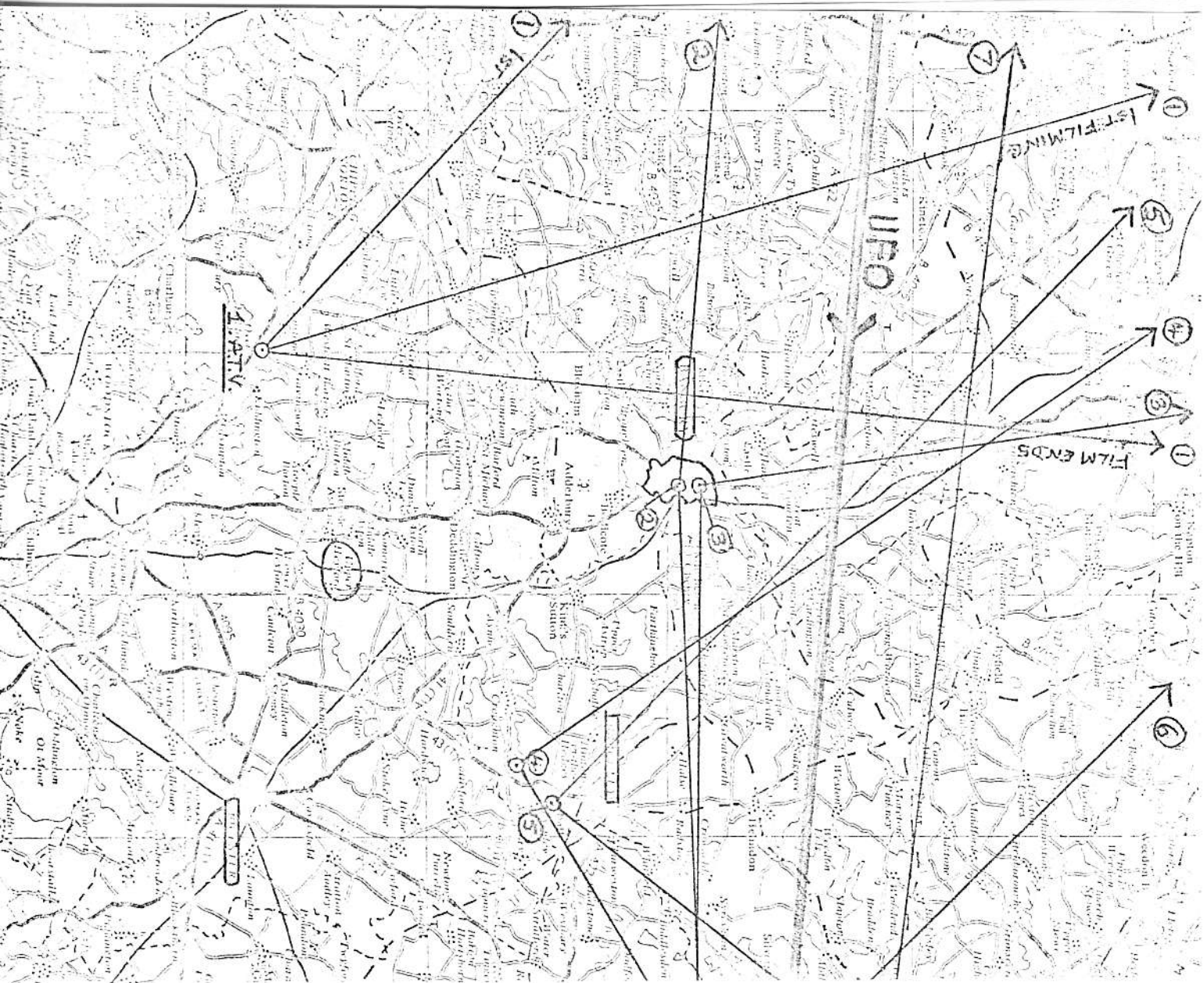
At present the Ministry of Defence has stated that a plane dumping fuel is the most likely explanation, although no details of the plane, its crew and operation base has been given. From the above evidence it appears highly unlikely that this is the true explanation.

Investigations are continuing.



Roger H. Stanway
(Chairman, B.U.F.O.R.A.)

December, 1971.





NORTHAMPTON

WOOTTON BASSETT

SCALE: 1" = 4 MILES

SUNSET

ANTHONY

Tape Transcript - Lionel Hampden's account of a U.F.O. sighting on Tuesday 26th October 1971. The Tape Recording was made at Enstone Oxfordshire on Sunday the 21st of November 1971 at the exact location of the sighting

On Tuesday, October 26th at approximately 7 minutes to 12 (noon), and if I were to vere away from that time I would go closer to 12 o'clock than before 7 minutes to, we were on Jordon Farm on a stubble field filming a flock of sheep and the shepherd. We were facing roughly East filming this when it was noticed over our left shoulders an orange object in the sky that appeared to be a revolving object. There was perhaps a little black that gav e the impression of a revolving object. We noticed it and not much attention was paid to it and the filming progressed. Then it drew all our attentions and the film unit stopped filming* the shepherd and the sheep and someone said - "Quick, film that"; and so the camera was turned through some 45° to shoot roughly North. The cameraman focussed upon this object, which to our eyes was orange and appeared to be revolving, although what came out on the film was a white object.** He then followed this for some way to the next tree down where a sudden burst of vapour trail appeared, a very thick burst at the beginning, as can be seen on the film, this progressed for a while and then the vapour trail stopped and the camera man lost the object in his view finder, of course it is very small in a camera view finder, he lost it altogether and so he stopped filming. But when we looked up again with our eyes we could still see this object, although on reflection it had at that point changed from an orange to a white, as we eventually saw on the film, and very, very smaller than the original object.

Someone screamed out - "Quick, film something on the ground to get a relative size", and the camera man swung the camera over the shepherd and Mollie Harris walking towards us across the field roughly from an Easterly direction; filmed them walking a few paces and then zoomed up to his left and in on the object again which was giving off a vapour trail and appeared to be travelling at a very, very fast speed indeed, and then shot out of his range again over vaguely to the North East. At this time the sky around us was a very bright blue, very bright indeed - a mediterranean type day. Over to our right and in the direction that the object was flying, coming in from the North East, what we were promised were a few clouds which later turned into rain, but at our end of the scale there was not a cloud in the sky; it was absolutely clear.

* NB. Although the camera was set up for filming, the camera was not actually running at that moment in time.

** Actually orange on initial sequences.

Noel or Chris noticed it first and I had a look at it myself and it to me actually didn't look like a plane at all because it was revolving around and then all of a sudden it seemed to stop and hang in the air and then it shot off at a terrific speed. I've never seen anything like it. It then stopped again and then shot off again and the vapour was coming out of the back. It wasn't a jet as I saw a jet half an hour later climbing high and travelling steady whereas the object I saw was revolving and seemed orange coloured to me. The speed it shot off at was quite out of this world.

The object was drawn to my attention and to my way of thinking it was revolving and stationary for about 10-15 seconds. I saw it for about 30 - 60 seconds before the camera started filming it. Later, after it had disappeared we looked back and we saw a big trail, a sort of greenish colour whereas a jet's vapour trail is usually whitish. The trail lasted for several minutes.

I saw no F 11's at the time I saw the object, they had been flying nearby both before and after.

When I first saw it, to me it looked as if it was hanging in the sky - the sun was reflecting on it.

If you have a ball and you paint it two colours say dark blue and white and you turn it around you will see the difference colour all the time and the object in the sky - it was going around and there were two different colours, you could see black and orange - orange black all the time - this is what it appeared to me.

I am convinced it could not have been a plane.

Charlie Lynch,
124 Farnham Road,
Handsworth, 21.

4 3rd December 1971 - Interview with Miss Christine Fewlass
and Mr. Sidney Kilby - (Mr. Kilby was the Director of the
Unit and Miss Fewlass his Production Assistant)

Sid Kilby - The object must have been hanging in the sky for about 30 seconds as the camera man had time to get onto it and zoom in on it. Also, if you notice, the object changed size (image grew bigger) as he zoomed - therefore it wasn't going away from us and it wasn't coming near us and it certainly wasn't moving one way or the other and, therefore, I would say that it was still.

Chris.Fewlass - The first thing that was noticeable was the vapour trail itself. The object was moving at a constant speed everytime it moved and stopped. It was moving relatively slowly the first time that we saw it but then the sky was so clear that there was evidence of it having travelled across the sky before it left a vapour trail which was the first thing that we saw. Their

travelled relatively slowly in comparison with what it did later on. But then I travelled back from the object along the vapour trail to where it had came from - there was then evidence that it had moved across the sky without leaving a trail - in a consistent straight line. When you've got a very very clear day in the Summer and you can see an areoplane, for example, in the sky which is quite high - you see what appears to be a slightly darker line in the sky which is not a trail - do you know what I mean ? - Well that happened.

It hung in the sky for a period of time - it was obviously spinning because it was "flashing" - it was catching the sun - rather than flashing it was a different intensity of light.

Sid Kilby - When it stopped, it slowed and divorced itself from the vapour trail, and the vapour trail then formed in about 5 wiggly lines, one on top of the other, very short, - it looked like one of those coat of arm's depiction of rivers - even in the blue and white infact. But the actual object was away from it and just stood there. There was a gap where it had slowly moved away from its own vapour trail.

Chris.Fewlass - Yes that's what it looked like to me. The wavy lines didn't appear to me to be going vertically, they appeared to be going horizontally, - in other words - as though the exhaust perhaps of what ever it was that was moving, was spinning on a horizontal plane.

We weren't actually filming at the time, we were setting up to film, and so Noel was ready to film. All Noel had to do was to pan left and up and so he was on it within a very short time. It stopped again after that - he panned across with the object itself as it started to move for the second time and it stopped again and that's when we saw it in the film. He then, I think, I'm not certain of this, he then cut and started filming again as it shot out of frame.

Sid Kilby - In the stopped period, and I remember now, it comes back to me, I said to Noel have you got it and he said Yes, and I said, where is it and he said, right in the middle of the frame. I actually had time to push him aside look down the camera myself and hand the camera back to him - that's how long it had stopped for. A matter of 10 - 15 seconds.

Chris.Fewlass - We can be more positive about the trail as it hung in the sky for a very long time after the object had disappeared - several minutes.

NB. At a previous interview, Mr. Kilby had said that Alan (on sound) had seen the object first and although they were using "rifle-Microphones" which were sensitive enough to pick up a normal conversation at 200 yds, Alan had not complained about any kind of sound interference when the object first came into view of the camera crew. This fact may be significant as Alan had been constantly complaining of the interference from aeroplanes earlier that morning. Mr. Kilby had been filming on location with the RAF and with this experience he considered the object to be bigger than a jumbo-jet at 25,000 ft and when moving, it seemed to him to travel from 10-15 times faster than a commercial jet at an equivalent height.

have no trouble; we have great trouble following them but we can follow them. This one was in comparison unbelievable - you wouldn't dream of being able to follow it as quickly. I also took a shot, zooming back from the object; I cut it at one point because I wasn't sure (of exposure etc.), I had to double check on things to make sure I wasn't going to run out of film or anything. I started again with a very wide shot showing the hill we were standing on, the person we were doing the interview with was in the foreground, and then zooming into the sky to show that it couldn't have been a trick at all. I did a full zoom again from the wide shot of the person in the foreground zooming into the object while it was hovering. I did various shots of that and, as I say, eventually she went off into the horizon. After we finished this, the P.A. (Miss Christine Fewlass) noticed behind us a very dark vapour trail, it was dispersing as a normal vapour trail would; but it seemed a very dark colour, it did not go a very hazy white. It was very dark sort of, well a dark green; it was just visible and a lot of people didn't see it. Eventually they noticed a very faint vapour trail which had gone right overhead - it must have gone right overhead. There was no noise at all. In fact the recordist didn't even bother, because normally the recordist would have plugged in and got some sound, and all he would have got was our talking voices because there was no sign of sound at all.

What it was I don't know, it could have been anything. It was definitely not a plane in my opinion. It wasn't a plane; it couldn't possibly have been.

The film was not cut or edited.

The first time I saw it she was travelling and by the time I had got the tripod head loosened off; it was a fluid head; the object was just coming to a standstill by the time I rolled..... I think we missed one complete sequence - it did this 3 to 4 times. I'm sure we missed one (sequence); The camera was still rolling and it was while it was stationary. While it (the object) was still stationary I locked off on the position I was on with the tripod and I took my eyes away to look at it with the naked eye and Sid (Kilby) looked at it through the camera at that point.

R.H.S. When you looked at it with the naked eye did you notice any difference. You were looking at it slightly magnified through the lens?

N.S. Not particularly because it is such a long lens anyhow. It was only a spot on the viewfinder. The viewfinder was probably dirty anyhow; it was just another speck on the viewfinder.

R.H.S. You picked it up very quickly, how did that compare with trying to get onto a jet?

N.S. I don't think a jet would be that high quite honestly.

R.H.S. A possible explanation at the moment could be that it was a high flying jet leaving a vapour trail. What would you say to that? In what way didn't it resemble it in respect of the way that you picked it up.

N.S. The fact that she was hovering to start with. When I first saw it looking through the view finder alone and then opening my other eye and looking out of the other eye at the same time; it was definitely hovering.

R.H.S. Was the camera absolutely still ?

N.S. I'd locked it off when she was hovering and opened my other eye - yes.

R.H.S. When you looked at it with your naked eye; was that the time when Sid Kilby looked ?

N.S. Sid would then have it while I had it in one position. I took my eyes very quickly away. In fact I'm surprised there's no fogging on the film because when you take your eyes away from the viewfinder light comes down through the viewfinder and fogs the back of the film. There may be a slight blue haze at that point - you may see it on the film.

R.H.S. Can you remember what colour the object was when you first got onto it ?

N.S. It seemed first of all to be bright silver but on the orangy side of silver. If you can imagine a silvery orange. But on the orangy side of silver. More towards an orange - it's hard to explain - it was silvery but not shiny silver - it was orangy silver.

R.H.S. On the film it looks as if it is white, could that be a fault of exposure ?

N.S. It could be, I think she was overexposed slightly. You'd lose colour - it would be more towards the white. Silver wouldn't register very good anyhow. The orange didn't register for some reason - I don't know, but it seemed very orange to me at the time.

R.H.S. What happened after Sid had had a look ?

N.S. I took over again. followed it for a short time with its vapour trail - followed a complete sequence and when she hovered again I cut. I don't know why I cut there it was rather a silly thing to do. I cut the camera; zoomed back for a wide shot without running the camera and then rolled the camera while I had the wide shot of the couple in the field and then held that for 10 or 15 seconds and then zoomed into the object again. It seemed logical to get a comparison..... By showing that (the field) there was practically nothing - you could just about see it in the sky. I'm amazed we saw it in the first place it was so small and tiny.....

R.H.S. Could you actually see the object at the time you swung away ?

N.S. Oh yes, I have a cross in the centre of my viewfinder, same as a rifle sight.

R.H.S. Is it the same zoom magnification as your lens ?

N.S. Oh yes, you see what the lens is seeing. I swung up and got the silvery object in the centre of my cross and she was obviously hovering and zoomed in to the centre of the frame.

R.H.S. When you held it on that cross, did it remain on that cross ?

N.S. She would be in the area of the centre of the frame. She was spinning on her own axis but she seemed to be circling if you know what I mean. She wasn't in one position all the time. As she was spinning she seemed to be losing and gaining height slightly She was dropping below and raising above the centre slightly. This happened the last time before she shot off at great speed. I think it happened each time it stopped.

R.H.S. (Asked about the middle part of the film where there was a gap in the vapour trail)

N.S. I don't remember what happened with this gap. I was concentrating on the object.

R.H.S. What would you say if somebody said it was simply a plane doing a very sharp left angled turn going away from you ?

N.S. No. No impossible. No, on the line that the object came in on, it was going left to right across the frame. It didn't do any turns as it continued in the same direction. It didn't do a complete turn or flip over.

R.H.S. What would you say if somebody said it simply did a sharp left angled turn and then a sharp right angled turn and continued on ?

N.S. No, it couldn't.

R.H.S. Why Not ?

N.S. Well, the vapour trail would be wrong to start with. The vapour trail was absolutely square all the way through. If the plane did a sharp left hand and right hand quickly you would get a hell of a lot of vapour dispersing after it. You didn't. You had one vapour trail all the way through. Absolutely impossible.

R.H.S. Have you ever filmed jets doing such manoeuvres ?

N.S. Well the best jet pilots I've filmed are the Red Arrows. I've filmed most manoeuvres they do and we know exactly what they look like and its nothing like that.

R.H.S. Do you think a jet could do that very sharp manoeuvre to suddenly appear to stop ?

N.S. No, no it couldn't - definitely no. If a jet did this, it would be in the same position - it couldn't hold that position - couldn't possibly. To make such a bank, she would have to loose height or gain height to climb into it. I would say it was impossible. I'd like to see somebody try it anyway.

END

Whilst lining up my next shot for a magazine programme, I observed in the sky a bright orange, almost fluorescent, spherical object which appeared to be hovering whilst spinning.

After a few seconds, the object flew off in a south easterly direction at an unbelievable speed leaving a normal type vapour trail. The vapour trail suddenly expanded to approximately ten times its original width as the object decelerated and finally stopped and hovered again.

This sequence of events was repeated three times until I finally lost sight of the object. Seconds after losing contact I followed the now dispersing vapour trail back to its source and found that the object had passed directly overhead.

During the whole event no noise or sound of any kind was emitted from the object.

TECHNICAL DATA

Camera ; Arriflex B.L. fitted with Angenieux 12mm - 120mm f2.5 zoom

Stock ; Ektachrome 7242 rated at 80asa (with 85 B + 1 A filter)
Normal development.

Aperture ; f16

Conditions ; Perfect bright cloudless day, High pre noon sun.
Sun at 45 deg. angle to camera.



Noel Smart.

BRITISH UNIDENTIFIED FLYING OBJECT RESEARCH ASSOCIATION

REPORT FORM FOR U.F.O. SIGHTING (No.)

This organisation has been set up to investigate, collate and analyse reports of Unidentified Flying Objects. It will be of great value if you will kindly give precise details of your observation on the date of

SECTION A.

FULL ACCOUNT OF OBSERVATION

On tuesday 26th Oct I was on a film location with an A.T.V. film unit. We were shooting a sequence on a sheperd when our attention was drawn to a revolving orange object moving very slowly from west to east across a brilliant blue sky. So impressive was it that the cameraman focused up and started shooting some film. After a few swconds (see film) a thick vapour trail started the object appeared to accelerate then the vapour trail stopped as suddernly as it had started. The camera man stopped filming as he had lost the image in the view finder. One of the unit then cried film something on the ground for a comparison of size. This was done and then the camera was lilted up to focus again on the object, which was again giving off a vapour trail and vanished off into the east and approaching clouds. At no time was their a sound to be heard. I stress that the object a orange with black and appeared to rotate although the film shows a white object.

Camouflaged F.III's were doing practice landings and passing quite clo to us. They paid no apperant attention to the object.

The location was farmer Jordans field Radford Bridge near Enstone Oxon. From my position on the hill and looking at the object the bright sun was on my back. The time 11.55 am approx.

To the best of my knowledge and ability this is a true account of what I saw.

Signed

Date

SRE:65

Please complete this questionnaire as fully and accurately as possible. If you cannot answer a question, write: "Don't know". DO NOT GUESS! All information you may give will be used for research purposes. Your name and your personal antecedents will not be divulged publicly without your permission. Any additional details of the sighting, not provided for in this document, should be included at the end of this form or in a covering letter. The following questions are easy to understand and do not require special technical knowledge.

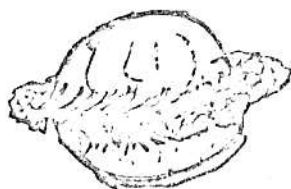
THANK YOU FOR YOUR CO-OPERATION

PLEASE USE BLOCK CAPITALS AND PREFERABLY A BALL-POINT PEN

- 1) When did you see the object? 2) What was the time of day? 11.55 Approx.
Tue 23 day, the 26th of OCT 19 71 hours and minutes, a.m. or p.m.
- 3) Was the time Greenwich Mean Time ☒ Local Time; ☐ British Summer Time;
 (please circle one of the above), or Other:
- 4) Where were you when you saw the object?
 Country: OXFORDSHIRE County, District, etc.:
 Nearest town or village: ENSTONE
 Exact location: SONOMA FIELD, BADFORD BRIDGE
 (enclose sketch map if necessary)
- 5) How long was the object visible to you?
 Hours, minutes and seconds: SEE FILM 400 MINS 10 SEC BEFORE.
- 6) What was the condition of the sky? (Please circle one of the following):
Bright daylight; Dull daylight; Twilight; or Darkness.
- 7) If the sighting was in daylight, where was the Sun located as you viewed the object? (Please circle one of the following):
 In front of you; Behind you; To your right; To your left; Overhead; Don't know
- 8) If the sighting was at night, what did you notice about the Moon and Stars?
 MOON (Please circle one) STARS (Please circle one)
 Bright moonlight; Dull moonlight; Many seen; A few seen;
 None; Don't know. No stars seen; Don't know.
- 9) Was the object brighter than the sky background? (Please circle one):
Yes, brighter; Not brighter; Don't know.
- 10) If the object was brighter than the sky, try to indicate about how bright it actually was compared with:
 Sun: Like Small Sun; Full Moon: Other:
- 11) Did the object, while under observation: (Please circle one on each line)

Hover?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Don't remember
Rotate?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Don't remember
Explode?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Don't remember
Emit smoke or vapour?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Don't remember
Change shape?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Don't remember
Change brightness?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Don't remember
Flicker or throb?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	Don't remember
- 12) Did the object, while under observation: (Please circle one on each line)
 Move in front of anything (e.g. cloud, hill)? Yes ☒ No
 Move behind anything? Yes ☒ No
 If the answer to either of these is yes, please indicate what:
- 13) Did the object appear: (Please circle one)
Solid? Not solid or cloud-like? Not sure.
- 14) Did you observe the object through any of the following? (Please circle if yes):

Spectacles;	Sunglasses;	Window glass;
Car windscreen;	Binoculars;	Telescope;
Theodolite;	Other,	
- 15) Describe the following properties of the object:
 Sound: NONE
 Colour: ORANGE WITH AN IMPRESSION OF YELLOW SPOTS
 Shape: A BALL WITH A CONICAL RIDGE
- 16) Draw a picture of the object:



- 17) The edges of the object were :- (Please circle one)
☒ Blurred or "fuzzy" ; ☐ Sharply outlined ; ☐ Other ;
- 18) If there was more than one object, how many were there?
- 19) Draw a diagram to indicate the course of the object(s), indicating any changes of direction. Put "A" at the start of the course and "B" at its termination ;

None.

Vapour Trail

Vapour Trail

- 20) How large did the object appear as compared with the following held at arm's length?
 (Please circle one) :-
 Head of a pin ; ☒ Pea ; Sixpence ; Halfpenny ; Florin ; Penny ;
 Cricket ball ; Football ; Other ;
- Did the object appear as large as the sun or the full moon? *NO.*
- 21) How did the object disappear from your view?
WENT OVER HORIZON
- 22) What familiar object, if transported to the sky, might look like the object you saw?
NONE
- 23) Where exactly were you when you saw the object? (Please circle one) :-
☐ In a building ; ☒ In the open ; ☐ In a vehicle.
- 24) If you were in a vehicle when you observed the object, please answer the following questions :-
 What kind of vehicle?
 How fast was it moving?
 In what direction was it moving?
- 25) In what direction were you looking when you first saw the object and when you last saw it?
 (Please circle one in each column) :-

First
☒ North
☐ Northeast
☐ East
☐ Southeast
☐ South
☐ Southwest
☐ West
☐ Northwest
☐ Don't know

Last
☐ North
☒ Northeast
☐ East
☐ Southeast
☐ South
☐ Southwest
☐ West
☐ Northwest
☐ Don't know

- 26) Try to estimate the object's angle of elevation above the horizon, and its angular bearing from true North, on its first and last appearance :-
 FIRST : From true North LAST : From true North
 Elevation *ABOVE NORTH* Elevation *R. STANWAY*

- 27) Did the object pass overhead? *NO*

- 28) Try to indicate the weather conditions at the time of the sighting.

(Please circle one in each section) :-

CLOUDS

☒ Clear sky
☐ Scattered cloud
☐ Much cloud
☐ Sky completely overcast

TEMPERATURE

☒ Cold
☐ Cool
☐ Warm
☐ Hot

WIND

☐ None *FAIR*
☒ Light breeze *N.E.*
☐ Strong breeze
☐ Moderate wind
☐ Strong wind

WEATHER

☒ Dry
☐ Fog or mist
☐ Rain
☐ Snow
☐ Other

- 29) Did you report to any official, or to the press, that you had seen the object?

Please give details :- *I AM THE PRESS: THE FIRM WAS SHOWN ON THE EVENING*

- 30) Did any other people besides yourself see the object(s)? and if so, please give their names, addresses, ages, qualifications, etc. :-

A.T.U. Full view: R. Stanway Hrs. 10.15

- 31) Was this the first occasion on which you had seen such an object? If not, give details of previous occasions :-

YES.

- 32) In your opinion, what was the object? *I HAVE NO IDEA: I WAS DESCRIBING*

- 33) Can you estimate :-

The true size of the object? *LAGER THAN A HIGH SPEED AIRCRAFT*

Its distance from you? *1000 YDS. IN FRONT OF ME*

- 34) What experience have you, if any, of observing objects in the sky, such as aircraft or satellites?
 None. But I am an experienced commentator.

35) Are you short-sighted, or long-sighted? Long.

36) Please give the following information about yourself:

Name in full. (Mr., Mrs., or Miss) Mr Lionel Hampton

Address: 11200000, Kingsbury Rd, Cusworth, Leicestershire

Telephone Number: 0530 222222 Age: 41.

Occupation: Shopkeeper

Professional / Technical / Academic qualifications:

- 37) Have you any objection to your name or occupation being published in connection with this sighting? No.

Date: 27/11/71

Usual signature:

PLEASE RETURN THIS FORM TO:

If there is no address written above, then please post this form to:
 the central director of investigations:

G. N. R. Stephenson,
 12 Dorset Road,
 Cheam, Sutton, Surrey.

R. H. STANWAY
 35 Winchester Drive
 Newville
 Stralsund

Please add here any other details not already included, or comments which you feel may be of interest or importance:

SID KIRBY saw the same as Miss Fenlass

RIDER 'A'

STATEMENT BY MISS P. FENLASS

continued..(SEE NEXT PAGE)

an appreciable speed, leaving a trail behind it. It then seemed to stop again and the vapour trail again disappeared abruptly. After a period of perhaps 20/30 seconds, the object moved off at a fantastic speed and within a very short time, was lost to sight.

PRELIMINARY SIGHTING REPORT

This organisation has been set up to investigate scientifically and to analyse reports of unidentified flying objects (UFO) over Great Britain. We would be extremely grateful if you would assist our investigations by filling in the details of your sighting requested below.

Your name. Chris Fewlass (Miss)	
Your Address. 19 Lordswood Square, Lordswood Road, Harborne, Birmingham 17.	
The date on which you saw the object Tuesday 26 October 1971	
The time at which you saw it (Please say a.m. or p.m.) approx. 12 noon	
Where were you when you saw the object (Please give full details) County: Oxfordshire Town or village: Enstone	Draw a sketch of the object giving its outline shape as you can best describe it
What colour or colours was the object A clear orange	
How long was the object visible for Perhaps two minutes	
If each of the following objects were held out at arms length, which one would just cover the object you saw, i.e. have the same <u>apparent</u> size? (circle one) pinhead pea sixpence halfpenny penny tennis ball football other	
If you have answered <u>other</u> to the above please give details below	
Give a brief description of your sighting I am a member of the RAF film unit and we were filming in a field at the time of the sighting. The vapour trail was the first thing that attracted my attention. The sky was very clear and cloudless and the trail was clearly visible. The horizontal edges of it were straight lines but the definition of the trail itself seemed to indicate that the object which caused it was spinning and that the exhaust was in a fixed position, in other words, as the trail expanded, hanging in the sky it became more apparent that it was "curly". The object in front of the trail appeared to the naked eye to be spinning but stationary. It was a definite orange colour and was almost circular. It hung in the air for perhaps 30 seconds or so after I first noticed it and then moved off.	

(SEE PREVIOUS PAGE 'A') Entry 11.1.71

Mr Kearsley was travelling S-E on the M45 with him was a student teacher to whom he was giving a lift (particulars of teacher unknown). When in the vicinity of Dunchurch the passenger exclaimed that there was a noticeably unconventional object travelling very fast across the sky. Mr Kearsley looked to the south and saw at an elevation of 45 degrees a silverish metallic looking object at some distance which was leaving an exceptionally heavy white trail behind it. There was at least one break in the trail but Mr Kearsley noticed no puffs at the end. It was evident that this was not an aircraft as its speed was very high. The object was on an approximately parallel course to the observer. After a while the trail ceased and the object continued briefly on the same course. Suddenly it changed direction with a 90 degree turn towards the north and passed over the motorway ahead of the observers. As it crossed in front of them the object began to accelerate, there was no visible sign of propulsion as at this stage the trail was not present, but the object was too far away to observe any details other than it seemed to be an elongated shape. As he was driving along the motorway Mr Kearsley was able to observe the object fully but the acceleration was so rapid that he was unable to follow it against the blue sky with his eyes.

Mr Collison had just parked his car on the south side of Bridge Street, Banbury, when his attention was caught by an object which was engulfed by a ball of flame. He first caught sight of the object over Wincoats Bakers (50deg. from mag. N) at which point it was a round ball of orange fire with a trail of white/grey smoke or vapour. But after having travelled a few more degrees to the west the smoke ceased and the object zig-zaged about for a few seconds after which it resumed its course and the trail recommenced. The smoke trail extended back some degrees to the east beyond the initial point of observation.

The witness is familiar with observing aircraft and has witnessed a Victor bomber crashing in flames. In his opinion the object, which is the subject of this report was not an aeroplane.

During the observation the witness returned to his car parked a few yards away and got his binoculars through which he observed the UFO. The party was completed when Mr Miles arrived on the scene and together with Mr Heritage they took turns in looking through the binoculars.

Witness completely impartial.

Mr Sparks was at his daughters house on Cherwell Heights Estate. They were looking out of the window for the postman. The view from the window is restricted (mainly in an upward direction) by a porch and venetian blind.

Mr Sparks related that his daughter was alerted by a noise and asked if he could hear it but he was unable to do so. The noise which was deep and rumbling caused his daughter (Mrs Blaise-Smith, report submitted) to look up. After a few seconds an orange red object came into view. It was spherical in shape and Mr Sparks thought it to be spinning although he recalls seeing no surface features or variations in colour by which he could determine this.

The object appeared from over the house i.e. behind the witnesses and was seen to be heading in an eastward direction. After a few seconds of observation the object commenced to emit a trail of smoke or vapour which was initially thicker, i.e. it started with a puff. The trail continued for a few seconds then stopped with a puff. The orange sphere was again clearly visible although it had previously been discernable at the head of the the trail. Suddenly the object vanished, to return a few seconds later as distinct as before. Then the smoke trail started again. This happened three times in all, so that the object had traced a straight course across the sky divided into three sections, where the trail was broken, the ends started and finished with a puff. A gap was apparent between the object and its trail.

Mr Sparks compared the size and the colour of the object with an old half-penny (in mint condition).

house on Ruscote Estate, with Dave; when they caught sight of the object, which; according to Neal, was a uniform orange with the appearance of flame, and was spherical in shape.

It was leaving a vapour trail similar in width to that of an aircraft. Suddenly the trail ceased, but the object did not seem to slow down or stop, but continued for approx. 3 times as far as its diameter. (dia.= width of trail.) Then the trail recommenced. (No puffs were noticed at the ends.) The trail ceased for a second time but only about 2x dia.

Whilst the object was under observation it gradually picked up speed, initially it was similar to an aircraft. Finally it put on a tremendous spurt; as the object now accelerated the trail began to taper, until it had tapered away to nothing. The object was now no longer there; presumably it had vanished due to terrific acceleration.

Neal said that the object pulsed at approx. 2c.p.s.

He also said that the object did not pass directly overhead, but passed slightly to the north. He did not recall that there had been any changes in course noticable when looking back along the trail left by the object.

Neal was alone when the object disappeared as Dave had run to his house to fetch some binoculars.

The trail hung in the sky for a few mins.

Compare this report with report submitted for witness: David Chatt.

It is possible that the angular bearing and exact location of the witnesses could be determined.

Mr Heritage arrived with a colleague (Mr Collison) who spotted the object initially as they alighted from his car.

The object was travelling left to right across Mr Heritage's field of view and was conspicuous by the flames that were issuing from it. Seeing the thick trail of white smoke that stretched back across the sky it was obvious to him that it had travelled some distance. Without any noticable change of velocity smoke again spurted from the rear of the object. This was again replaced by flames and then more smoke. As investigator I was unable to determine accurately whether the flames were extinguished when the smoke was present or merely appeared insignificant due to the volume of smoke.

The witness observed the object through binoculars but said that it was too far away to distinguish any features. It was just a dark shape. The flames, he said, came from the back of the object.

During the observation he and Mr Collison were joined by car park attendant Frank Miles (interviewed).

It seems likely that the witness implied that the object was making smoke and flames simultaneously and just flames separately.

The witness was uninterested and completely impartial but was perhaps not as observant as he might have been.

The witness reported that at all times the object travelled in a continuous straight line.

Mr Miles was standing in his kiosk, situated on the south side of Bridge Street opposite Banbury Town Hall. (O.S. Ref: SP457406) His attention was drawn to an object leaving a dense vapour or smoke trail behind it, the object was moving in an easterly direction at an elevation of 35-40 degrees. When the object appeared to be over a chemists shop on the opposite side of the road (30 deg.) the smoke ceased and the object burst into flames. The object, which had initially been travelling about the speed of an aircraft, slowed down considerably when the flames appeared, but after a few seconds the object abruptly returned to its original speed. (I was unable to ascertain accurately

It seems probable that it did but flames recommenced shortly afterwards and then continued until the end of the observation.) When over Vincott's Bakers (50 deg.) the object nose-dived, dipping down nose first towards the ground and then returned to original altitude again nose first. The object continued until lost from sight to the north-east. Immediately before it disappeared the object was again seen to nose-dive.

The object which was cigar or 'airship' shaped and the color of aluminium, with no visible features as wings etc. The term 'nose', in this report is applied to the pointed end which at all times was leading. Mr Miles observed the object through field glasses part of the time. He stated that the flames came evenly from all over the surface of the object and not from the trailing end. The flames gave the appearance that the object was on fire and Mr Miles thought that it was an aircraft on fire and associated the nose-diving motion with an attempt by the pilot to extinguish the flame. The flames formed a complete ball of fire around the object.

9) Mrs. Saysell was standing outside Friz Hill House when she, just happening to look up, saw; an unusual vapour trail. She was sufficiently surprised by its appearance to continue watching.

Although she was unable to determine any object at the front, due to the great distance that the trail appeared to be from the observer, she was able to determine the front as the trail was still forming in an easterly direction. The total length of the trail was only a few degrees of arc and there was no indication of where the object had come from or of which direction it went, but the trail, short as it was; was straight. There were two (2) puffs in the trail but no gaps. One puff was at the termination and the other in the middle. The trail remained in the sky for several minutes.

The exact position of the observer was: SP 298535. But the exact angular bearing could not be determined. Mrs. Saysell seems to have been looking - south-west. Landmarks given by the witness so that the bearing could be determined, are slightly contradictory.

The angle of elevation could not be determined from the witness.

The witness was unable to hear any sound from the object.

When Mrs. Saysell saw the film on ATV she phoned up to say that she had seen the object.

10) Mrs. Blaise-Smith was in the front room of her home in Banbury with her father Mr. W. Sparkes

12 Beargarden Rd.
Banbury.

(Not interviewed.)

She said she heard a roaring/crackling noise and went to the window to see what it was. (the view from the window is obstructed by venetian blinds and an external porch, which prevents one looking up at any angle over 35° without difficulty.) She saw an orange sphere leaving a trail of vapour behind it. The sphere stopped twice, with a puff of vapour. When the vapour stopped the noise stopped. When the vapour restarted there was an audible explosion and a puff. Mrs. Blaise-Smith is certain that the object stopped. ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ Statements from all the other witnesses are at variance over this point. She saw no flames when the trail (and the object,) stopped.

11) FOR R) SEE NEXT PAGE.

2) MR BLAISE-SMITH'S ACCOUNT HAS BEEN OMITTED AS IT IS ONLY VERY BRIEF.

Duration of first pause in trail, 5 seconds.

(K) David Chatt, was standing outside the shops in Banbury, when he saw an orange sphere at some height above the houses a couple of hundred metres to his west. The sphere was leaving a thick white vapour trail, about 3 or 4 times wider than an aircrafts trail. The object was as wide as its trail.

Looking back along the trail Dave could see a double bend in the trail, where the object had evidently turned sharply to its right, traveled a very short distance and then turned to its left, taking up a course parallel with the original.

The sphere passed directly over his head, at which point the trail ceased, a puff or blob was left at the termination but the sphere continued. Dave said that the object decelerated as it moved away from the end of its trail but he was not sure if it stopped completely. The vapour trail then resumed with another puff.

The above sequence was repeated again after the object had moved further toward the east and when the object accelerated away for the second time, Dave ran into his house which faces the shops, to get his binoculars, but when he came out the object had gone. He noticed the end of the trail did not terminate with a puff as before but tapered and faded out.

Dave did not hear any sound from the object, which was reported by others as making a roaring noise. The background noise at his observation point, was, he says, and is likely to have been, low. If it was making a noise at this stage, Dave is certain that he would have heard it.

He is certain that no flames came from the object when the vapour stopped and that the orange sphere was the object itself and not a large flame.

The vapour faded away much quicker than a normal condensation trail.

On story above, please continue on an additional sheet.

(K) Trevor Twynham, was standing at aprox. SP584352 Evenly, nr. Banbury. with three men, all presumably much older than himself (We interviewed, Mr. Ridge of 30, Astrop road, Kings Sutton nr. Banbury.) Mr. Ridge was obviously over sixty and rather set in his ways. He told us that as Trevor was only a boy, they had pulled his leg saying that it was one of them there flying objects, but he and the others thought it to be an aeroplane.

Trevor described the object as an aeroplane, adding that it was of an unconventional design, he had obviously been influenced by the older mens remarks

They saw the 'aeroplane' traveling east, leaving a trail of white vapour. It flew in a straight line at 45° elevation. When it was above Evenly Hall, 43° east of magnetic north, but beyond, Trevor said, the vapour stopped and the object continued a short distance then a flame came out the back of the object. The flame was twice the size of the object.

The vapour or smoke, as Trevor called it, started coming out again then it 'just vanished', 'you couldn't see nothing else'.

Trevor was certain and continued, 'It didn't look like it had flowed out of sight, as far as the eye could see, 'cos it hadn't, it just vanished.' Mr. Ridge thought the object had gone behind some trees but at an elevation of 45° it seems unlikely.

Trevor saw no wings, cockpit etc.

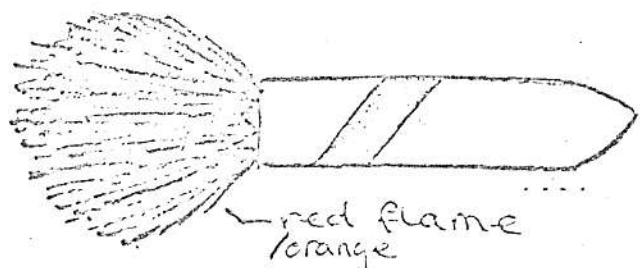
Other witnesses are William MacShane, 83, Queens road, Banbury.
and Raymond Bull, Gt. Worth.

Simon Pearce was in Hayes Lane Deanshanger with several school friends
(during school hols.) Steven Louis 141 Globe Rd. (all boys aged 11-12)
Martin Nicols 189 Glebe Rd.
Philip Smith 187 Globe Rd. Deanshanger.
(We also interviewed Alan Boag, Gleneagles, Hayes Rd., Deanshanger.
who was standing outside his home at time of sighting.)
All the witnesses were interviewed seperately and their stories were so
similar to Simon's that separate reports were superfluous.
R.P.C. What first drew your attention to the object.
S.P. It's not often that you see a vapour trail that suddenly stops.
R.P.C. How long was the object visible, to you.
S.P. About 5 mins. then it went behind a small wood, we went into a
field to see around the wood but the object had gone (But the trail rem
R.P.C. Can you describe the objects appearance. -ained.)
S.P. It looked sort of rocket shaped, it was a white glow. When the
vapour trail stopped it made an orange/red flame. The vapour trail was
a whitish color, the actual object itself was white.
R.P.C. How many times did you see it stop.
S.P. We didn't see it stop. It seemed to be going along all the time
even when the vapour trail stopped. The trail stopped about 5 or 6 times
well I'm not sure. No it was 3-5 times.
R.P.C. Did the trail hang in the sky very long or fade away quickly.
S.P. It did stay for a while, it was still there from when we first saw
it, when the trail stopped it stopped suddenly (No puff or tapering.)
R.P.C. Was the flame visible all the time ther was no vapour visible.
S.P. Yes we could see it untill the vapour trail restarted.
R.P.C. Did it change course at all. S.P. It might have done slightly.
Could you hear any noise. The others did but I cant remember hearing
it myself but the others did. (Steven Louis said there was a rumbling
noise and the ground shook slightly.) Then the aeroplanes came.

.CONT. If there is insufficient space for your
story above, please continue on an
additional sheet.

(A) Mrs. Peachey was called into the front garden by her husband, she saw an object that looked like a rocket. It was white, its pointed nosecone was offset to one side and it had a blue diagonal stripe across it. 'It made a noise like distant thunder, a strange sound unlike anything we had heard before'. It stopped twice as it went overhead traveling east. The object came into sight with the trail behind it. Then the trail stopped. There was a short burst of flame. Then the object stopped dead (Mrs. Peachey is certain.) For several (seconds. It then moved off again suddenly, very fast. (No period of acceleration. Shortly after the vapour recommenced. The cycle then repeated. When the flame superseded the vapour the level of the noise rose but then all was silent until the vapour recommenced.

object in both
Modes
Top - flame
bottom - vapour



- Note offset
nose cone.



White Vapour



Blue diagonal stripe.

10. VISIT TO (USAF) UPPER HEYFORD
(December 1971)

At our request, Colonel "Skip" Burns, Flight Commander of the (USAF) Base at Upper Heyford, Oxfordshire, agreed to meet the writer, his wife, and Mr. Julian Hennessey one morning in order to seek the views of the Base personnel upon the 16mm film. The Base is approximately 7 miles North-East of the location of the camera-crew at the time of the filming.

Colonel Burns and several of his fellow senior officers gathered in a briefing room near to the lead-off to the main runway and the film, which we had brought with us, was shown about 4 times both forward and in reverse and with some "still" shots as well.

The officers were visibly impressed with the film but on discussion Colonel Burns considered that there was nothing to indicate that the subject was anything other than a high-flying jet leaving an intermittent vapour-trail as it entered, left and then re-entered the troposphere again. Although we repeated the comments of the eye-witnesses, it was clear that the absence of any fixed frame of reference in the viewfinder for most of the film did not assist in establishing whether or not the "jet-plane" was performing abnormally in the sense that its sudden apparent stops and dramatic accelerations were quite unlike any existing ability of a jet in similar conditions.

During the general discussion that inevitably followed on the subject of UFOs, it was abundantly clear that Colonel Burns and his officers were well acquainted with the UFO phenomenon and Colonel Burns, in particular, had a good knowledge of previous USAF investigations over many years. We were also very interested to hear one of his officers recount his own sighting of a "UFO" when flying a number of years previously in the States.

We left the base with little doubt in our minds that the pilots to whom we had been talking, took the subject of UFOs perfectly seriously; there was no attempt by them to dismiss the phenomenon as mere misidentifications although in this specific film case, Colonel Burns certainly felt that the object was probably a plane leaving a vapour trail.

Colonel Burns confirmed that none of his planes had been dumping fuel on the morning in question as such a course of action is only adopted in cases of emergency and there was none that particular morning. This statement flatly contradicts the one made by Antony Lambton in his letter to Mr. Julian Hidsdale, M.P. dated 7th February 1972, a copy of which appears later in this Report and which has been kindly provided by Mr. Julian Hennessey.

METEOROLOGICAL OFFICE (1st 0 9)
London Road Bracknell Berkshire RG12 2SZ

Telex 84100

Telephone 0344 (Bracknell) 20242 ext 2310

Mr J A Hennessy
57 Pent Street
London
SW11 0DD

Please reply to The Director-General
Your reference

Our reference *MP/112139/70/1st 0 9*

Date *21* December 1971

Dear Sir

Reference is made to your letters of 15 and 18 December 1971 concerning the weather in the Epsom area of Oxfordshire around noon on 26 October.

The general situation over England was anticyclonic with light to moderate E'ly winds over Southern England and variable amounts of cumulus. Extracts of observations from the nearest reporting station (RAF Ebico Norton) are given below:-

<u>26/10</u>	<u>TIME</u>	<u>Wind (dir & sp)</u>	<u>Weather</u>	<u>Cloud</u>	<u>Vis</u>	<u>Temp</u>
	0700	030/07	Fine	111	5mi	09°C
	1200	030/07	Fine	2/8 Cu 2,500'	12mi	12°C
	1500	030/11	Fair	3/8 Cu 4,000' 1/8 Cu 2,500'	20mi	12°C

Upper Winds estimated for noon in the Oxfordshire area are:-

<u>26/10</u>	<u>dir</u>	<u>kt</u>
5,000ft	030	15
10,000ft	070	20
20,000ft	050	25
30,000ft	030	30
40,000ft	020	30
50,000ft	350	20

The tropopause was recorded at a pressure level of 235mb at a height of 36,200ft.

A bill for £1.50 is enclosed to cover extraction of data, including the high level wind.

Yours faithfully

F E Dinsdale
F E DINSDALE

(File original).

12

RAF Upper Heyford
Oxon

Mr. J. J. A. Hennessy
57 Port Street
London SW IX 0DD


Dear Sir

All United States Air Force aircraft flying in England operate under regulations established by the Military Air Traffic Organization/Civil Air Traffic Organization. One approved aircraft arrival and departure route for RAF Upper Heyford is adjacent to the city of Eastone. Occasionally aircraft position and height on this route make an F-111 visible from Eastone. Daily flying schedules are such that several aircraft are airborne at the same time throughout the day, including the lunch hour.

The dumping of fuel by any aircraft, civil or military is extremely infrequent and always dictated by necessity. Fuel dumping over populated areas or at low altitudes would only be performed when required to insure safety of the aircrew and the aircraft.

Thank you for your interest in our operations at RAF Upper Heyford. Enclosed is a brochure on the F-111 aircraft.

Sincerely


RICHARD M. SATCHIN, Colonel, USAF
Commander



From: Mr. A.N. Davis DSO, DFC

MINISTRY OF DEFENCE S4 (AIR)

Main Building, Whitehall, London S.W.1

Telephone: 01-222 7422, ext. 7055

Note

Case Number: E/EX30/67
Your reference:

7th January, 1972.

J.F.A. Hennessy Esq.,
57 Port Street,
LONDON, E1 6JD

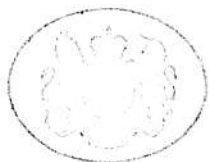
Dear Mr. Hennessy,

Your letter of 19th December 1971 addressed to the MHO at West Brayton has been passed to me for reply, for reasons of which you are already aware.

I confirm that our records show that a military aircraft did dump fuel over Oxfordshire at about midday on 25th October 1971. The dumping took place at a height sufficient for all the fuel to have vaporised before it reached the ground, but there is no record of the exact location of the aircraft when the fuel was dumped. As you say, the dumping of fuel is almost invariably dictated by necessity, the most usual reason being the quiet reduction of all-up weight to within the maximum weight for landing.

Yours Sincerely,

A.N. Davis



MINISTRY OF DEFENCE

MAIN BUILDING, WHITEHALL, LONDON, S.W.1

TELEPHONE 01-930 7022

PARLIAMENTARY UNDER-SECRETARY OF STATE
FOR DEFENCE FOR THE ROYAL AIR FORCE

AF/PS 529/71

7th February 1972

Further to my letter of 31st January, I am now able to send the full reply I promised to yours of 18th January, with which you forwarded a further letter from Mr J.J.A. Hennessey about unidentified flying objects.

In his enquiries concerning the object filmed at Eastone on 26th October, Mr Hennessey has asked, in verification of my Department's statement that military aircraft did dump fuel over Oxfordshire at about midday on that date, to be provided with a copy of the specific record of this occurrence. Although I cannot make such a document available, I can confirm that the aircraft concerned was a P-111 based at RAF Upper Heyford. Of course, the fact that an aircraft dumped fuel in the area does not prove that that was the event recorded on the film. The observation was, however, certainly consistent with an aircraft emitting a condensation trail or dumping fuel. Whether it was the first or the second alternative, or both in turn, would be dependent partly on the height of the aircraft, which could not be determined from the recording of the film viewed by my officials.

In his letter Mr Hennessey also questions the credibility of the US National Academy of Sciences in its role of government adviser on scientific matters. I can confirm that, in our view, the National Academy of Sciences remains a highly reputable body which is not tied to the US Government, although it often carries out work for that government. We know of no reason to discredit the work done by the panel from the National Academy of Sciences in reviewing the report on UFOs by the University of Colorado.

As you know, the Ministry of Defence interest in unidentified flying objects is limited to the Defence aspect and there would be no justification in expending public funds on scientific studies which would go beyond our Defence interest.

• (ANTONY LAMBTON)

Julian Ridsdale, Esq, MP,
House of Commons,
London, SW1

*
INSPECTION OF FILM BY PANEL OF EXPERTS
AT KODAK

SUMMARY REPORT BY MR. C.A.E. O'BRIEN

Mr. Coe of Kodak has had his inspection of the film before a panel of experts and they are baffled, without anything really constructive to say.

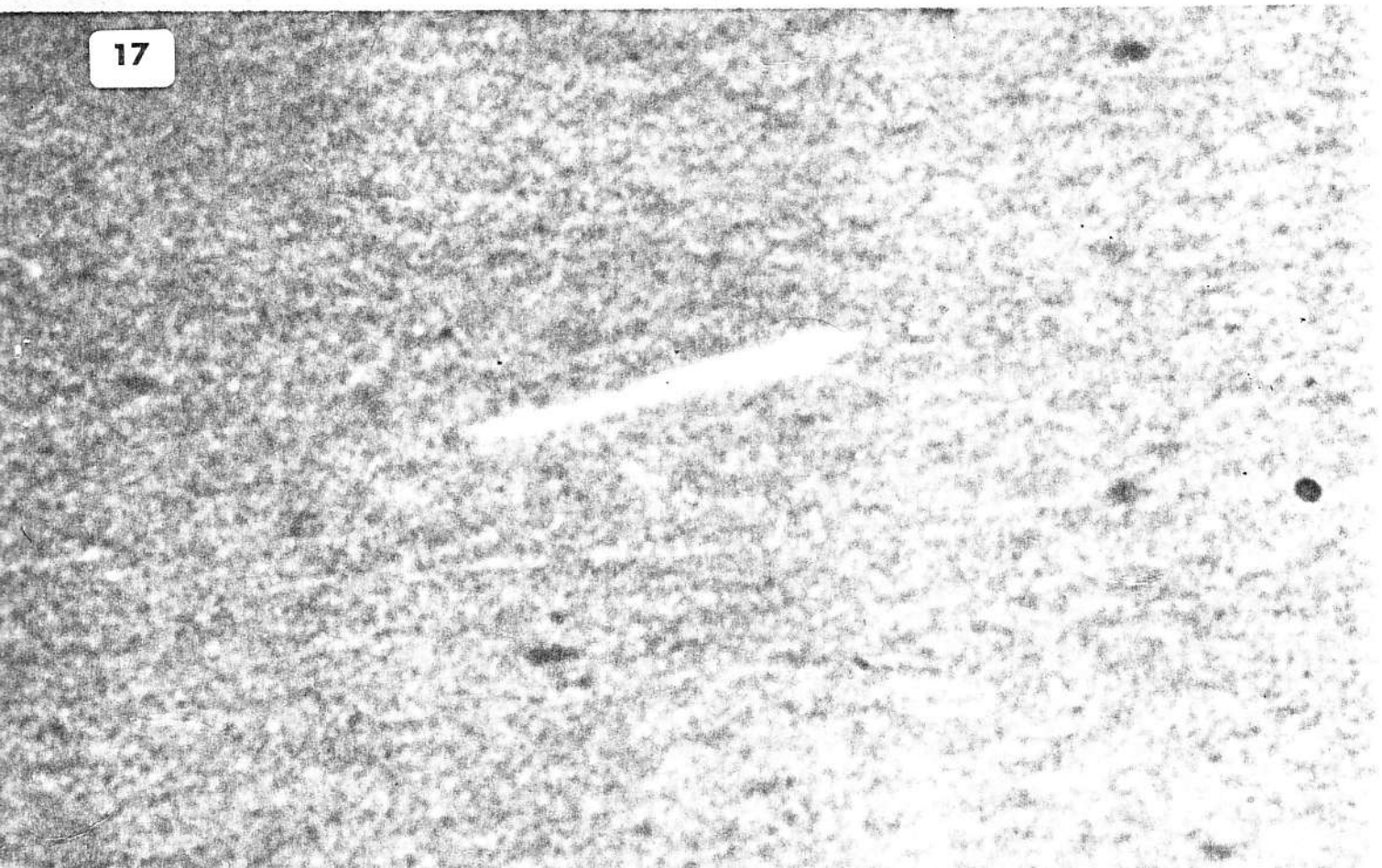
Briefly, conclusions are these:

1. The "hovering" dot is not definable on this print; it drifts to the left, goes out for 6 frames, and then becomes a line. They were intrigued by this - but only suggested solution was looking up the tailpipe of a jet.

However, they were agreed that what was required was a darker print (or several with different exposures) on higher contrast material. If this can be obtained they would be happy to meet again and reconsider. There is apparently a distinct chance that greater contrast would bring out the shape.

2. The moving second shot, they consider is not incompatible with a conventional aircraft moving in the opposite direction to the apparent of the film. That is, moving slowly from right to left; with the panning of the camera giving the suggestion of fast movement from left to right. The camera would then have been "following" the object the wrong way. I do not think this is a very strong suggestion!

I am sure Coe would be glad to hear from you, and particularly to hear whether there is any chance of a darker print - he is definitely interested in the problem.



TV crew film 'mystery flying object'

DAILY TELEGRAPH REPORTER

MILLIONS of TV viewers last night saw a 50-second colour film of an unidentified flying object taken yesterday by a television camera crew. Described as the most startling pictorial record ever made of a moving UFO, it is to be made available to the Ministry of Defence today.

The UFO was filmed in clear skies over Oxfordshire by an ATV documentary crew making a film about life in the Cotswolds.

A Ministry of Defence spokesman said last night: "We cannot comment until we have studied the film closely."

The six-man television crew spotted a gleaming object in the sky, apparently circular in shape, and leaving an intermittent vapour trail. Mr Sidney Kilby, director of the unit, ordered his crew to focus on the object.

In the film which resulted, the object first appeared to hover, several miles up in the sky. It moved off at great speed, shooting out a vapour trail.

It appears to stop again, almost instantly, and the film ends with the object, trailing vapour, shooting out of view too quickly for the camera crew to keep pace with it.

Mr Kilby said: "We heard absolutely no noise and I estimate the object was up to eight or 10 miles away. The United States Air Force had been flying F-111s over the area earlier in the morning and, in

fact, we accidentally filmed one. But this object was certainly not one of the aircraft."

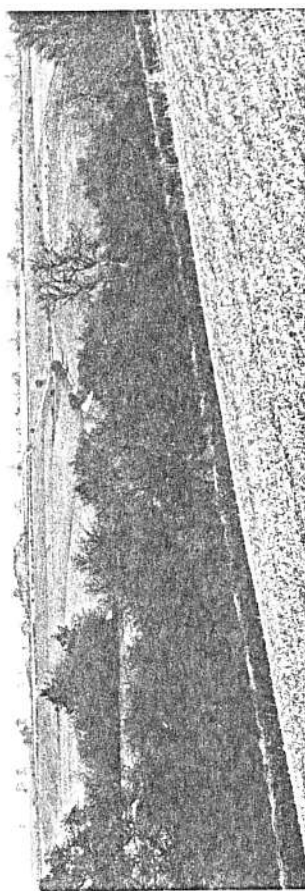
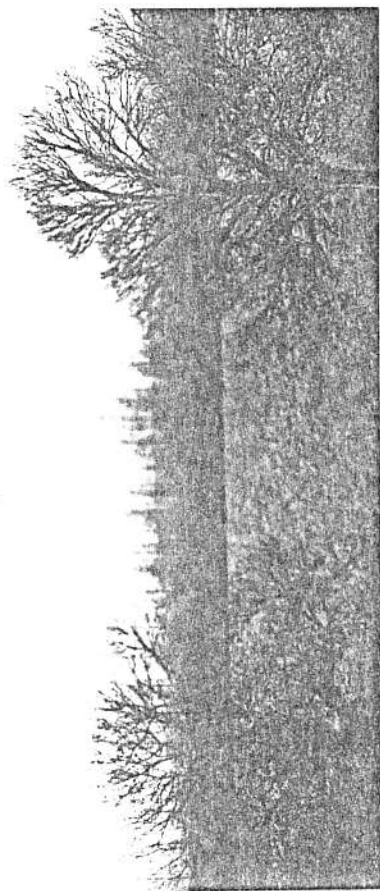
The crew included cameramen experienced at filming jet aircraft. They say the sky was clear and the object appeared to be bright orange in colour. Their film was first shown to Midlands viewers last night on the programme Today.

'Reliable evidence'

Mr Roger Stanway, a solicitor and chairman of the British UFO Research Association, said after seeing the film: "One's first thought is that it is some sort of aircraft, but certainly behaving in a most unconventional manner. If it is any type of aircraft, the Ministry of Defence and civil radar authorities should have a record of it."

"The circumstances in which this film was taken, by professional cameramen, make it a very reliable piece of evidence and I feel the sighting is sufficiently strange for the Ministry of Defence to make a statement on it."

A spokesman for the United States Tactical Fighter Wing, at Upper Heyford, near Bicester, said their pilots saw nothing unusual during routine flights.





19

Mrs. Eileen Williams,
37, Rochester Way,
Tywford,
Nr. Adderbury.

Tuesday October 26th 1971. Time: 11.55 hrs. b.s.t.

She saw a circular yellow object with a vapour trail behind it going fast across the sky east to west.

Weather hot day with a slight breeze and no clouds.

18

Police Inspector Ted Cawte,
Banbury Police Station,
Banbury.

Tuesday October 26th 1971. Time: 11.55 hrs. b.s.t.

He saw a high flying glowing object stop and start with a contrail that soon disappeared.

Weather hot day with a slight breeze and no clouds.

20

Editor of Banbury Guardian,
Parsons Street,
Banbury.
Tel: 4321.

Tuesday October 26th 1971. Time: 11.55hrs. b.s.t.

He saw a circular yellow object with a vapour trail behind it going fast across the sky east to west. Weather hat day with a slight breeze and no clouds.

36

Mrs. Dalbirnie.
The Court.
Greatworth.
Nr. Banbury.

Tuesday, 26th. Oct., 1971. Time 07.30hrs.,

She saw ball of orange light stationery in the sky above her towards the west. It stopped there for 4mins., before racing off to the east at high speed, leaving contrail behind it. Object was not a plane, and made no noise.

Weather, Bright, Sunny, Day.

41

Tuesday 26th October 1971 Time 19.50 B.S.T.

Mr & Mrs. A. Burton
The George & Dragon,
Shutford,
Banbury.
Tel. Swalecliffe 320

They saw object in field next to five ways crossroads. Object estimated to be 500ft above the field, and 50 yards in diameter with lighted windows around it no noise, it moved slowly then suddenly dissapered in front of thier eyes.

20
Tuesday, Oct., 26th. 1971. II. 53a.m.b.s.t.

Flight Sgt., Howley,
c/o., R.A.F. Greatworth,
Nr., Banbury.
Oxon.,

He watched object with unusual vapour trail behind it moving fast from north east to east? at an estimated speed of 4,500m.p.h. in the atmosphere, at a height of 35,000'.

The object was a definite circular object, with no noise, and at one time it stopped for ten sec., or so as though it was observing the ground below it, then it suddenly shot off at a speed which would have crushed any normal plane and it's crew.

Mr. Howley goes on to say that he estimated the angle of it to be 85° from the horizon in his view.

The contrail glowed as it stayed there for 14mins.,

Weather: lovely day, warm, no clouds to be seen, slight wind.
Flight Sgt., Howley is familiar with all types of aircraft and stated that this was not an aircraft or a re-entry space craft.

TUESDAY OCTOBER 26th

Mr. Keith Duffy of 90 Well Lane, Curbridge, near Witney saw this object. So too did a number of workers at the Paper Mill at Wolvercote, just north of Oxford.

Mr. Duffy has had 14 years in the R.A.F. He described what he saw as "a silver pin prick at the head of an unusually thick and substantial vapour trail", moving much faster than anything we know of. The leading edge of the vapour trail was abnormally square. The comparatively short trail tapered slightly at the end, but instead of fading away it ended abruptly.

There were in fact two distinct trails. The first lasted for only a matter of seconds. Then nothing could be seen where one expected the trail to have continued. A second trail then began and moved at a high speed without further interruption. The speed of the object was estimated by Mr. Duffy as being in the order of 5,000 m.p.h.

1. TECHNICAL DATA:

- (i) Film type - Ektachrome 7242 rated at 80 ASA (with 85B + 1A filter) - normal development
- (ii) Camera - Arriflex B.L. fitted with Angenieux 12mm - 120mm f2.5 zoom lens
- (iii) Aperture - f16
- (iv) Running speed - 28 frames per second - Total duration - 54.76 secs.
- (v) Approximately 10 frames = 3 inches
- (vi) Frame dimensions - height - 0.3"
width - 0.4"
- (vii) Film examined was a copy of the original made by ATF
- (viii) Inspection of each frame was carried out with the aid of a calibrated magnifying eye lens and by projecting film onto a ground glass screen of an editor giving a magnification of 22.5 times the original.

2. DESCRIPTION OF FILM SEQUENCES:

There follows a brief description of the various sequences of film. The copy which was the subject of this preliminary examination starts with 5 ft 9 in of white leader; followed by 14 $\frac{1}{2}$ in of under-exposed film and then 11 $\frac{1}{4}$ in of over-exposed film. There then follows 1536 frames of actual film and each frame has undergone a superficial examination as indicated above.

(i) First Sequence: (Frames 1 to 590) Time = 21.01 secs.

On frame 1 there is a round orange image very slightly less than 0.005" in diameter and which is very nearly in the centre of the frame - i.e. it is exactly half way between the top and bottom of the frame but 0.005" (i.e. its own diameter) to the right hand side of a line vertically bisecting the frame in half (central vertical c/v).

This confirms the statement made by the cameraman that immediately he obtained the object in his viewfinder, he positioned it at the intersection of the cross-hairs on the lens and then locked the camera in position and started filming.

At various stages during this sequence, the image (apparently constant in brightness and colour) moved very slightly about the centre of the frame - usually only 0.01" and generally from side to side - see frames 50, 57, 84, 200, 250, 325, 425, 500, 550, 575.

In this sequence there is no evidence of any other form of image whether "vapour trail" or otherwise and the lens was on full 10 times magnification all the time.

(ii) Second Sequence: (Frames 590 to 611) Time = 0.75 secs.

In this short sequence, the brilliance of the orange image fades and brightens again as follows:-

591 and 592	-	Fading
593 to 596	-	Brilliance returning
597 to 599	-	Fading rapidly
600 to 603	-	No image visible
604	-	Image returns but very faint
605 to 610	-	Gradually brightening but as a faint white dot

During this sequence the image (when visible) has remained in the same position.

(iii) Third Sequence: (Frames 611 to 1035) Time = 15.14 secs.

Frames

* 611 - the faint white dot has moved 0.06" to the right of the C/V and dropped to 0.01" below the central horizontal C/H. It has also started to become elongated (sideways).

625 - image beginning to look like a small bright white comet i.e. there is a distinct trace of a head and a tail. The image is at this frame 0.015" long. It has moved very little from the centre of the frame indicating that the cameraman has now unlocked the camera and is following it in his viewfinder.

650 - 0.02" long NB: Frames 611 - 850
675 - 0.03" " (239 total)
700 - 0.04" " last for 8.54 secs.

725 - 0.055" "
750 - 0.065" "
775 - 0.075" "
800 - 0.085" "

- by this frame the "head" of the comet-like image has become much thicker and more prominent and this development continues.

* 850 - 0.105" - the leading edge of the "head" has become slightly angled.

875 - 0.12" long

900 - 0.125" "

925 - 0.09" "

950 - 0.09" " - By this frame the "head" appears to be coming slightly detached from its tail.

975 - 0.095" "

1000 - 0.105" "

1025 - 0.101" " - The image is now very reminiscent of the shape of a sparkler firework (unlit) - i.e. a bulbous head and spindly tail.

1035 - End of sequence.

NB. - It is not clear whether or not the "vapour trail" created by the object was dispersing very soon after it was created.

(iv) Fourth Sequence: (Frames 1036 to 1536) Time = 17.86 secs.

Frames

- This sequence was taken after an interval of a few seconds (approx. 30 secs at most) during which time the cameraman stopped filming, swung his camera round towards the fields, reduced magnification to wide-angle and checked his film and exposure. He then started filming again in order to show the relationship of the image/object to that of features and persons on the ground and also to demonstrate that it was not a trick.

1036 - 1042 Shot of fields (wide-angle) showing two persons walking on the side of the hill with a dog - over-exposed.

1043 - 1249 Correct exposure of views of fields as before.

1250 Commence zoom (magnification) onto two white images visible in the sky.

1275 Completion of zoom. (300m \therefore takes approx. 1 sec.)

1300 - 1536 The higher of the two images on the film (i.e. the trailing image left behind) is thick white and wedge shaped. It is 0.015" long with a definite curved leading edge, i.e. the edge seems to be defined by a curved concave line running from the top right hand side of the head towards the bottom left-hand side. In other words, the top of the "head" is leading the rest. A greater magnification of these frames could be most revealing to confirm that this leading edge is in fact curved. There is no trace of any solid-looking object, merely a dense "vapour trail".

The lower (diagonally to the right and going away from the camera) of the two images is represented by a small white patch rather like a "puff" linked by an imaginary diagonal line which is 0.16" long (i.e. an 0.16" gap). However, leading on ahead of this lower white patch is a "vapour trail" leading into the distance and out of the right-hand side of the frame and which is at least 0.15" in length.

Towards the end of this last sequence the cameraman is endeavouring to trace and/or keep up with the rapidly accelerating object.

END

Although it is tempting to dismiss this UFO as a jet leaving a contrail, to do so would represent a negation of scientific method and intellectual honesty. There are fortunately many reliable independent witnesses whose descriptions are sufficiently similar to place beyond all reasonable doubt the fact that whatever the object was, it was manoeuvring in our atmosphere with an ability quite unknown to man-made flying machines or rockets. Practically all the witnesses confirm quite categorically that the object actually STOPPED quite suddenly and "hovered" in mid-air at least twice and possibly three times during the course of its trajectory over Banbury. In addition, the object accelerated out of the sight of witnesses (leaving a "vapour trail") at such a rate that this fact alone convinced most witnesses that the object was no ordinary jet-plane. Readers will no doubt be familiar with the sight of a high-flying plane which passes very slowly overhead leaving a vapour trail and that, without the vapour trail, the jet would hardly be visible, let alone prominent enough to catch the eye of dozens of startled people on the ground. This particular object was of such a size as to be immediately noticeable to witnesses WITHOUT a vapour-trail to act as a marker. Its unusual motion and brilliant colour was also quite extraordinary.

Even without the aid of mathematical calculations it is clear that the apparent size of the object was many times bigger than that of a conventional jet, and further, it exhibited rates of acceleration and deceleration far in excess of those of the world's most advanced jets assuming that the object was at a sufficient height (32,000 ft.) to produce a vapour trail. However, the evidence indicates that it was much lower - probably about 12,000 - 18,000 ft.

Therefore, *prima facie*, it would seem that neither a conventional jet nor a rocket (not on the secret list) can satisfactorily explain the object that was filmed.

* * *

By way of a footnote, it should be mentioned that the writer has spoken to meteorologists about the formation of condensation trails by jets and established that there is no direct relationship between the tropopause and the height at which these trails form, although, depending upon temperature, the heights can be fairly similar. In any event it is most unlikely that a trail would be formed below a height of approximately 26,000 ft thus establishing a minimum height for the object if it was a jet leaving such a trail.

Further, the writer has timed the trajectory of jets leaving vapour trails, and although times vary and, as indeed the times during which the trails remain visible, it rarely takes less than six minutes for a jet to travel out of sight from a point high overhead in the sky above an observer.

Although the expression "vapour trail" has been used throughout this Report it now seems very likely that this is not the true explanation of the effect. Again, all the evidence indicates that whatever was causing the "vapour trail" effect was actually enveloped in it which suggests that an indication of the shape of the object can be gained from a close study of the configuration and characteristics of the cloud effect surrounding it. Could the effect be caused by ionisation of the air ?

Although investigations were initially conducted extremely intensively, little further progress has been made latterly largely because it has proved difficult to find someone who is sufficiently experienced with both ufology and the study of moving objects on cine-film and who is prepared to analyse critically the film frame by frame. As the reader will have seen, Kodak are willing to lend further assistance. Also, Mr. Hennessey forwarded a copy of the film to Dr. R.M.L. Baker for his observations. It was interesting to note Dr. Baker's comments on seeing the film and which are contained in Chapter 8 of the highly recommended book entitled "UFO's - A Scientific Debate" (published by Cornell University Press) and which was edited by one of the world's leading exobiologists, Professor Carl Sagan of Cornell University. In this book, Dr. Baker states (without having the advantage of studying the details contained in this Report) as follows:

"Typically, the film is difficult to analyse. One brief filmed sequence exhibits a broad trail, which I have never witnessed before. The object could be an aircraft dumping fuel or a conventional aircraft accompanied by a vapor (sic) trail. Because of the color and motion of the filmed object much more analysis would be required in order to be more certain of these natural phenomenon explanations."

It is also a cause for regret by the writer that his personal and business commitments during the past two years have delayed the further research that must be undertaken before a proper evaluation can be made and a Final Report published. However, for the sake of completeness, the writer makes the following recommendations for further enquiry and research:-

- i) Trace and interview the ATV crew's sound technician and the shepherd being interviewed.
- ii) Analyse film - follow up Kodak and Dr. Baker.
- iii) Endeavour to simulate the film sequence using the same camera-man, camera, film, location and ambient conditions but this time knowingly filming a jet aircraft at high altitude emitting a vapour trail, thereby enabling a comparison to be made.
- iv) Attempt to calculate accurately the size, speed, height, brightness and rates of acceleration and deceleration based on both known parameters and frames of reference (if any) and also on certain stipulated assumptions.
- v) Contact witnesses not yet interviewed in detail and re-interview key witnesses to check salient points.
- vi) Obtain colour film of a plane dumping fuel in similar ambient conditions for comparison purposes.
- vii) Obtain Reports from consultants regarding the atmospheric conditions, aircraft and rocket manoeuvres, dumping of fuel and of course analysis of the film.

Preliminary Report concluded.

1st May 1975

Roger H. Stanway

Roger H. Stanway,
Chairman, BUFORA.

